



# AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 11 - NOVEMBER 2014

### INTRODUCTION

November was an extraordinarily busy month for HAART: aside from the usual activities of assisting victims and conducting workshops, we had visitors for a full 12 days from Denmark and the weekend after we had visitors from Germany. HopeNow is a Danish organization a bit similar to HAART; it is dedicated purely to countering human trafficking in Denmark. It was a good visit and we were together to go through a lot of the work that we do. They saw some of the victims as well as the workshops both in Nairobi and in the rural area, where our friends in Loitoktok hosted us for a visit. You can read more about the visit in this feature. The German Misereor is our main development partner, and they came to visit us to discuss the project. We are happy to report that they will continue to support HAART and continue to play a big part in the next few years, as they have played a big part in HAART being able to reach thousands of people over the past two years.

We are continuing to follow the case Kenyan women being trapped in Libya. Some of them have been trafficked and all of them are suffering from the effects of war in Libya. We have been working with the Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and IOM in Kenya and Libya. We are hopeful that the women, around 25 of them, will be able to come back to Kenya soon. Although just being able to return is an accomplishment in itself, we have to look at their individual situations that lead to them being trafficked in the first place and provide for a good integration and rehabilitation process. Otherwise, we risk them being re-trafficked. This month's newsletter features a story of our visitors from Denmark as well as a report on the newly published 'Global report on trafficking in Persons 2014' by UNODC.

This month we also attended conferences in Mombasa where we met with some of our partners from Kenya Peace Network and in Nairobi with the International Rescue Committee. Lastly, our young Programme Assistant, Winnie Mutevu, represented HAART at a meeting on human trafficking at the Vatican in Rome, organized by the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. She will write a report for next month's newsletter and we will post pictures on Facebook.



Visitors from Denmark

Young@HAART were on Radio Waumini on October 3rd where they performed in a radio drama, shared stories and explained what human trafficking is. See more pictures on [facebook.com/haart.ke](https://www.facebook.com/haart.ke)

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## Visitors from HopeNow

By Anni Alexander

In early November, we had some special visitors from Denmark. Michelle Mildwater and Sune Jørgensen from a Danish anti-trafficking organisation called HopeNow came to Nairobi for 10 days to meet HAART and to see our work. During the visit, Michelle and Sune met many of our staff, volunteers and victims of trafficking in Nairobi and Loitokitok. They also explored Kenyan culture and became more familiar with Kenyan society.



HopeNow, which was established in Copenhagen in 2007 by Michelle Mildwater, works with foreign victims of trafficking in Denmark, many of whom come from African countries. Initially, HopeNow focused on working with Nigerians but have started to work with victims from other countries as well, including Kenya. HopeNow has helped both women and men who have been trafficked to Denmark and has an outreach programme to identify more victims. They give the victims psychosocial help and also have a volunteer run programme where victims can study subjects such as English. In addition, they visit victims in prison to assure their human rights are not violated. Furthermore, HopeNow has been involved in many film projects including the documentary *When the Moon is dark* by Anja Dalhoff. The film is about human trafficking from Africa to Europe and shows the work of HopeNow.

During their visit we had many special events. For example, on 1 November Sune went to Kikuyu with HAART staff to meet some of our victims of trafficking who have organised themselves into a support group. Sune spoke to the men and women about the experiences and challenges they are now facing. The group also had a chance to voice their opinions about what they would need to improve their lives. Meanwhile, Michelle joined Young@HAART and HAART staff for a workshop at a rehabilitation centre in South B. Young@HAART spent time with the boys there and educated them about human trafficking through drama and dance.

In addition, on 4 November we visited our volunteers in Loitokitok, near Kilimanjaro and the Tanzanian border. The volunteers explained the unique circumstances regarding human trafficking in the area due to the close proximity of the border. For example, Tanzanian children are trafficked across the border to Kenya to work as cattle herders. We also held a workshop in a nearby village where we educated the participants on human trafficking and engaged in a conversation with them. It became clear that there is a real need to have more workshops in rural areas like Loitokitok.

Before they left, Michelle and Sune told us stories of Kenyans being trafficked to Denmark, affirming that when Kenyans are trafficked abroad it is not only to Arab countries or North America, but also to Northern European countries like Denmark. Therefore, there is a link between Denmark and Kenya regarding human trafficking. What inspired this visit was the potential to work together on a common cause. HopeNow already has some previous experience in working with partner organisations in Africa and is interested to work on the issue of human trafficking in the source countries such as Kenya. HAART and HopeNow have already been working together informally on some individual cases involving Kenyans who have been trafficked to Denmark. The visit included many lengthy discussions between HAART and HopeNow staff, and next year we are hoping to start a joint project right here in Kenya involving raising awareness.

You can find more information about HopeNow at [hope-now.dk/en](http://hope-now.dk/en) and on [facebook.com/HopeNowDK](https://facebook.com/HopeNowDK).



# UNODC Global Report on Trafficking In Persons 2014

By Phyllis Mburu

HAART continues to monitor the latest news and reports on human trafficking. The latest is the global report on human trafficking by UNODC. The report provides an overview of patterns and flows of human trafficking at the global, regional and national levels. This is to support countries to respond more effectively to this crime.

However, it should be kept in mind that official data reported to UNODC by national authorities represent only what has been detected. It is clear that the reported numbers are only a tip of the iceberg. Below are the key findings:

## Key Findings:

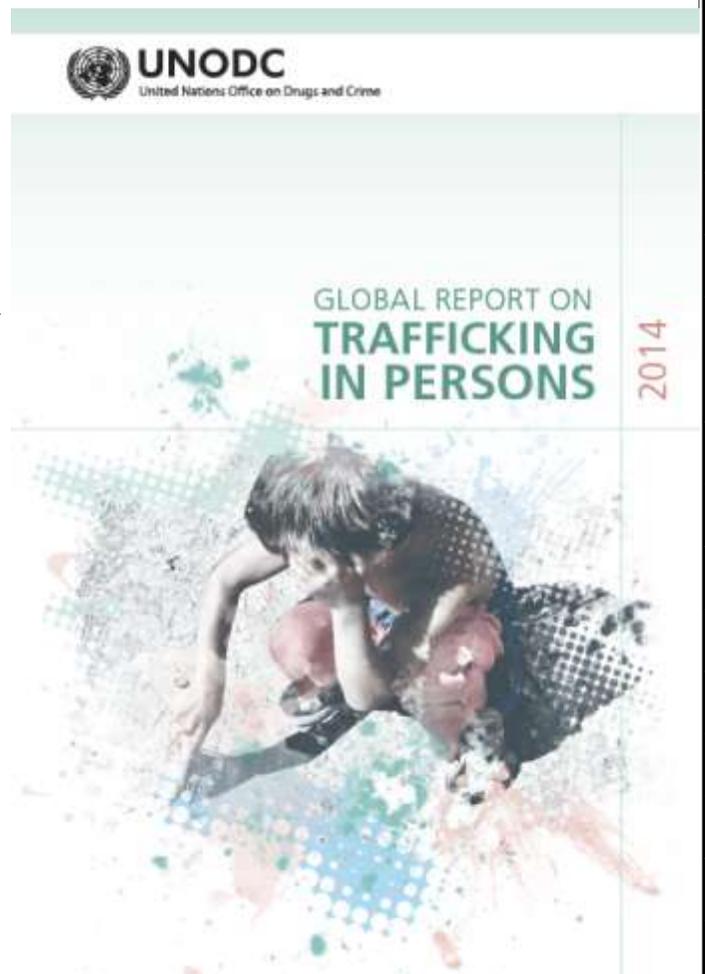
- Many countries have laws stipulating penalties against traffickers despite the low convictions on the same. Between 2010 and 2012, some 40 per cent of countries reported less than 10 convictions per year.
- Nevertheless, the legislation does not cover all forms of trafficking and their victims, leaving far too many children, women and men vulnerable. Thus, implementation falls short.
- The most prevalent form of exploitation is sexual exploitation which counts for 50% in most continents. Forced labor as a form of exploitation is slowly increasing.
- In terms of gender, women above the age of 18 are more vulnerable because they make 49% of victims followed closely followed by girls below 18 years with 21%.
- Trafficking happens everywhere, but as this report shows most victims are trafficked close to home, within the region or even in their country of origin, and their exploiters are often fellow citizens.
- In some areas, trafficking for armed combat or petty crime, are significant problems.
- At least 510 trafficking flows have been detected.
- 72 per cent of convicted traffickers are men, and 28 per cent are women.

Trafficking of persons is a crime against humanity. It is perpetrated by fellow human beings and yet, in terms of consequences and prosecution, there is little that is done. It is clear that without robust criminal justice responses, human trafficking will continue to enrich the criminals at the detriment of the victims.

Responses in combating human trafficking need to be tailored to national and regional specifics if they are to be effective. But we need to advance from understanding to undertaking, from awareness to action. The gravity of this continuing exploitation compels us to step our response and increase the urgency of dealing with human trafficking.

You can find the full report on:

[haartkenya.org/UNODC2014](http://haartkenya.org/UNODC2014)





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PLEASE VISIT US AT:

[HAARTKENYA.ORG](http://HAARTKENYA.ORG)

Follow US ON FACEBOOK

[FACEBOOK.COM/HAART.KE](https://FACEBOOK.COM/HAART.KE)

## Upcoming events

- 5 workshops at the grass root level organized by our volunteers
- Training of partners
- Assistance to victims' of human trafficking (VOTs)
- Anti-trafficking campaign in social media
- HAART to evaluate awareness programme

HAART in social media:

Please visit us on our new Facebook account:

[facebook.com/HAART.Ke](https://facebook.com/HAART.Ke)

If you click LIKE, you will receive daily news feeds.

You can also get our daily tweets if you follow us on twitter:

[@HAARTKenya](https://twitter.com/HAARTKenya)

## Volunteers of the month



Volunteer  
Elizabeth Mwangia



Volunteer  
Rosalia Makau